



City of El Paso – City Plan Commission
Ordinance to Amend Title 20 Zoning, Article IV, On
Premise Sign Regulations Chapter 20.18.400, (9), (h)
Changeable Electronic Variable Message Signs in
Residential Districts

- It is necessary to amend the sign code regulations to revise variable sign standards and requirements to resolve existing conflicts with changeable electronic variable message signs in residential districts and permitted light commercial uses in mixed use and high density residential districts.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Proposed Redlined Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 20 (ZONING), CHAPTER 20.18 (SIGN REGULATIONS), ARTICLE IV (ON PREMISE SIGN REGULATIONS), SECTION 20.18.400 (GENERAL) TO REVISE SIGN STANDARDS FOR CHANGEABLE ELECTRONIC VARIABLE MESSAGE SIGNS TO REMOVE DISTANCE REQUIREMENTS FROM CERTAIN ZONING DISTRICTS. THE PENALTY IS AS PROVIDED FOR IN CHAPTER 20.24 OF THE EL PASO CITY CODE.

WHEREAS, Title 20 (Zoning) of the El Paso City Code was adopted to promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the community;

WHEREAS, Title 20.18 (Sign Regulations) of the El Paso City Code provides for the regulation of all signs as authorized by the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 211 Municipal Zoning Authority and Chapter 216 Regulation of Signs by Municipalities and the City's zoning and police powers; and,

WHEREAS, Title 20.18 (Sign Regulations), Section 20.18.040 of the El Paso City Code makes the following findings: "that the number, size and height of signs in the City, both off-premises and on-premises, is unduly distracting and confusing to motorists and pedestrians, creates traffic hazards, and reduces the effectiveness of signs needed to direct the public; that the appearance of the city, particularly that of its residential and light commercial districts is marred by the excessive number of signs; that the aforementioned effects detract from the pleasure, safety and economic well-being of the community, and that the number of distracting signs ought to be reduced to lessen the detrimental effects;" and,

WHEREAS, Title 20.18 (Sign Regulations), 20.18.040 of the El Paso City Code makes the following findings: "that the use of signs in the exercise of First Amendment freedoms must be balanced against the community, neighborhood, and social impacts of such signs; and the regulations contained in this chapter are the minimum amount of regulations necessary to achieve its purposes;" and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the sign regulations to revise the distance requirement of changeable electronic variable message signs (CEVM) from certain zoning districts; and,

WHEREAS, a public hearing regarding the proposed amendment was held before the City Plan Commission, and the Commission recommended approval of the amendment; and,

WHEREAS, the El Paso City Council has determined that this amendment is in the best interest of the public and will promote the public health, safety and welfare of the City;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

ORDINANCE NO. _____

SECTION 1. That Title 20 (Zoning), Chapter 20.18 (Sign Regulations), Article IV. (On-Premises Sign Regulations), Section 20.18.400 (General), Subsection A.9.h., of the El Paso City Code be amended as follows:

A changeable electronic variable message sign is not permitted within 200 feet from R-1, R-2, R-2A, R-3, R-3A, R-4, R-5, P-RI, P-RII, RMH, PMD, A-1, A-2, A-3, A-4, A-M, A-3/0, R-MU, G-MU, I-MU zoning districts.

SECTION 2. Except as expressly herein amended, Title 20, Zoning, of the El Paso City Code shall remain in full force and effect.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____ 2015.

CITY OF EL PASO

Oscar Leaser, Mayor

ATTEST:

Richarda Duffy Momsen, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Karla M. Nieman
Assistant City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:

Mathew S. McElroy, Director
Planning & Inspections Department

ORDINANCE NO. _____